

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 OES-06 PM-04

ACDA-07 NSC-05 CIAE-00 /057 W

-----180922Z 118346 /14-S

P 180500Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2102

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 3334

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC PFOR

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT

REF (A) STATE 067973 (B) TEHRAN 2686

1. WE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION DATED APRIL 11  
FROM DR. AKBAR ETEMAD, PRESIDENT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANI-  
ZATION OF IRAN, IN RESPONSE TO THE TALKING POINTS I LEFT WITH  
THE COURT MARCH 29 (REF B). ETEMAD CHARACTERIZED THE FOLLOWING  
AS "IRAN'S PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON THE US NUCLEAR POLICY".  
TEXT FOLLOWS:

QUOTE (A) IRAN SHARES THE CONCERN ABOUT THE DANGERS OF UN-  
REGULATED SPREAD OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITY. AT THE SAME  
TIME, IRAN HOPES THAT THE UNITED STATES COOPERATE WITH OTHER  
NATIONS IN FULFILLING THEIR LEGITIMATE ASPIRATION TO BENEFIT  
FROM NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY BY PEACEFUL APPLICATION.

(B) & (C) IRAN WISHES THE UNITED STATES SUCCESS IN ITS  
DOMESTIC NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. WE ESPECIALLY  
WELCOME THE DECISION TO INCREASE UNITED STATES PRODUCTION  
CAPACITY FOR NUCLEAR FUELS.

(D) THE PROPOSED UNITED STATES DECISIONS WOULD HAVE IMPLI-  
CATIONS FOR OTHER NATIONS. IRAN COMMENDS THE UNITED STATES  
FOR THE WISDOM TO SEEK THE VIEWS AND PARTNERSHIP OF CERTAIN  
INTERESTED NATIONS IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS  
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INCREASINGLY NEEDED TO MEET GLOBAL ENERGY DEMANDS AND MINIMIZE  
THE RISK OF PROLIFERATION. IRAN AFFIRMS ITS WISH TO CONTRIBUTE  
TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

(E) IRAN IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS INTERNATIONAL APPROACHES  
AND FRAMEWORKS WHICH WOULD TREAT EQUITABLY THE LEGITIMATE NUCLEAR  
OBJECTIVES OF ALL NATIONS AND PROMOTE THEIR COMMON GOALS. IN  
THIS RESPECT, IRAN WISHES TO REITERATE THAT AN EFFECTIVE INTER-

NATIONAL FUEL CYCLE PROGRAM REQUIRES PARTICIPATION BY DIVERSE  
INTERESTED NATIONS AND DETERMINATION TO AVOID ECONOMIC PENALTY  
FOR NATIONS STILL UNABLE TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL  
CONTRIBUTION.

(F) IRAN NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THE UNITED STATES POLICY OF  
ENCOURAGING ADHERENCE TO THE NPT AND TO COMPREHENSIVE INTER-  
NATIONAL SAFEGUARDS, STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING THE IAEA, AND  
TAKING OTHER APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO DEVELOP THE NON-  
PROLIFERATION REGIME. IRAN TRUSTS THAT THE SANCTIONS AGAINST  
THE VIOLATION OF NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS WITH THE UNITED STATES WILL  
BE APPLIED THOUGHTFULLY AND JUDICIOUSLY; SANCTIONS OTHERWISE  
IMPOSED WOULD THREATEN THE SMOOTH OPERATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
COOPERATION IN THE NUCLEAR ENERGY FIELD.

(G) & (H) IRAN APPRECIATES THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE  
COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE UNITED STATES NUCLEAR  
ENERGY POLICY, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER CONSULTA-  
TIONS WHICH THE UNITED STATES MAY DEEM DESIRABLE. UNQUOTE.

2. ON APRIL 15 I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK BRIEFLY WITH  
DR. ETEMAD IN SHIRAZ. HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD HESITATED IN  
SENDING ME THE FOREGOING SINCE HE REALIZED THAT IT WAS  
GENERAL AND SOMEWHAT SUPERFICIAL. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE  
SIMPLY HAD NOT HAD TIME TO GIVE THE MATTER MATURE THOUGHT  
IT DESERVED. NEVERTHELESS, HE CONCLUDED THAT SOME RESPONSE  
WAS WARRANTED. I ENCOURAGED HIM TO GIVE THE MATTER FURTHER  
THOUGHT AND ASSURED HIM THAT WE WELCOMED ANY SUGGESTIONS  
HE MAY HAVE SUPPORTIVE OF OUR COMMON NON-PROLIFERATION OBJEC-  
TIVE AND OUR DESIRE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH OUR FRIENDS TOWARD  
THIS OBJECTIVE.

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3. ETEMAD SAID THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO THE EARLY RESUMPTION  
OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON US-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGRE-  
MENT. FOR SOME REASON HE SEEMED TO EXPECT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S  
ANTICIPATED STATEMENT ON US ENERGY POLICY WOULD LAY THE GROUND-  
WORK. I RESPONDED THAT WHILE OUR ENERGY POLICY AND OUR INTER-  
NATIONAL NUCLEAR COOPERATION POLICIES MAY HAVE INTERRELATED AND  
INTERDEPENDENT FEATURES, I DID NOT KNOW WHETHER POLICY REGARDING  
BOTH WOULD BE ARTICULATED AT THE SAME TIME. IN ANY  
EVENT, I ASSURED ETEMAD OF OUR INTEREST IN RESUMING OUR DIALOGUE  
SOON. THIS THEME WAS PICKED UP IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL EDITION OF APRIL 16 WHICH QUOTED  
ETEMAD AS SAYING INTER ALIA THAT "TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO  
COUNTRIES WOULD RESUME SOON ON THE SALE OF UP TO 8 U.S.  
REACTORS. WE HOPE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS AND INTEND TO  
COME TO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT."

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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